

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 11051 160955Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/066 W

-----095135 170402Z /13

R 160905Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8894

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11051

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, KS, KN, JA
SUBJECT: KIM TAL-NAM

REF: SEOUL 4894

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO RECORD OF STATEMENTS TO PRESS BY
KIM TAL-NAM IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS MAY 12 RETURN TO JAPAN,
JUNE 22 EDITION OF SHUKAN SANKEI CARRIES LENGTHY INTERVIEW
IN WHICH KIM ACKNOWLEDGED ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY IN ROK.

2. ENTITLED "I WAS A NORTH KOREAN OPERATIVE," INTERVIEW
HAS KIM DESCRIBING HIS RECRUITMENT IN TOKYO IN SUMMER OF
1969, BEING SPIRITED AWAY BY BOAT IN DEAD OF NIGHT FOR
TWO WEEKS TRAINING IN DPRK, RETURNING TO JAPAN AND
ENTERING ROK ONE WEEK LATER. HE THEN, IN SEPTEMBER 1969,
"STARTED BOLD ACTIVITIES, IN STRICT SECRECY, AS NORTH
KOREAN OPERATIVE." KIM RECALLED EXCITEMENT WITH WHICH HE
AWAITED FIRST RADIO DIRECTIVE FROM PYONGYANG, AND DESCRIBED
HIS EFFORTS TO BUILD ANTI-GOVERNMENT STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.

3. KIM CLAIMED TO HAVE CEASED ALL HIS ACTIVITIES IN
SEPTEMBER 1971, FOLLOWING ARREST OF AN ACQUAINTANCE.
ARRESTED HIMSELF IN FEBRUARY 1975, KIM NOW ADMITTED
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"INVESTIGATION... WAS AMAZINGLY PERFECT; THERE WAS NO
ROOM FOR ME TO REFUTE CHARGE." BALANCE OF INTERVIEW
CONCERNS HIS IMPRISONMENT, COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE FROM
DEATH TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT, AND HIS RELEASE. HE
ATTRIBUTED HIS GOOD FORTUNE TO EFFORTS OF HIS FAMILY AND
FRIENDS IN PRO-SEOUL FEDERATION OF KOREAN RESIDENTS IN
JAPAN (MINDAN).

4. FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED SEOUL AND EA/K. MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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